

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The dedication, innovation and entrepreneurial spirit of the small business men and women in the state of South Dakota helps the American economy grow stronger, and businesses like Fred Haar Company are the heart of the economy in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The Fred Haar Company is celebrating 125 years in business as one of the oldest John Deere dealerships in the nation with its dealerships in three South Dakota communities, Freeman, Wagner and Yankton; and,

Whereas, In 1882, Fred Haar, an emigrant from the southern part of Russia, began a hardware and implement business in Freeman, South Dakota, with his friend and business partner, Christopher Guenther. The partnership of Haar and Guenther dissolved in 1901 by mutual consent, and the implement business has continued and remained in the immediate Haar family – now in its fifth generation; and,

Whereas, Fred Haar Company has been doing business for 125 years adding to the vitality of South Dakota's economy, and has provided jobs, benefits and growth opportunities to many South Dakotans; and,

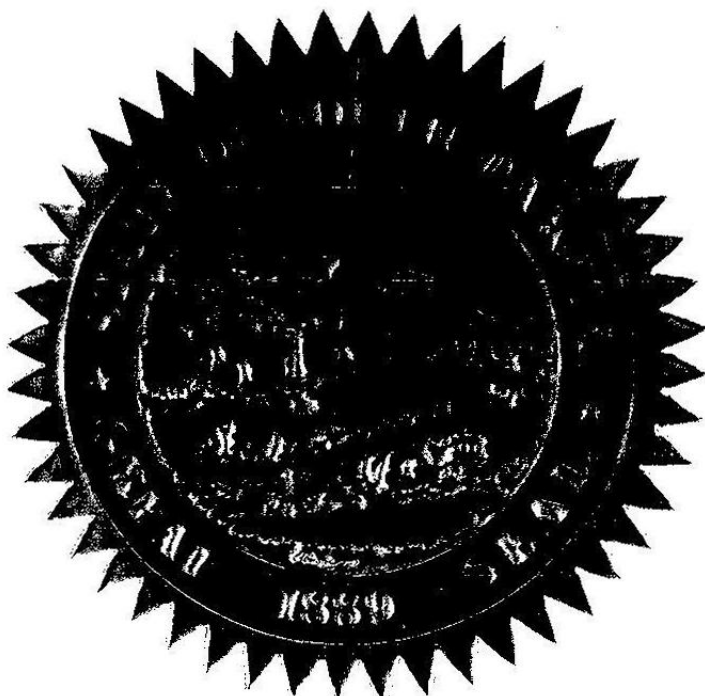
Whereas, Fred Haar Company has played a vital role in improving South Dakota's rural economy since 1882, and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this milestone in retail business through 125 years of our state's history:

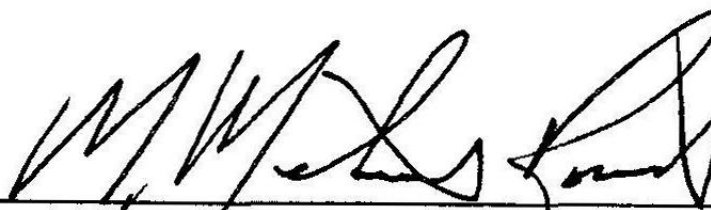
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 22, 2007, as

FRED HAAR COMPANY DAY

in South Dakota, and I call upon citizens to observe this day and celebrate the achievements of Fred Haar Company and its employees.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.




M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State